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Journal of Information Science, Vol. 6, No. 2-3, 59-66 (1983)

DOI: 10.1177/016555158300600204

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A review of the use of inverted files for best match searching in information retrieval systems

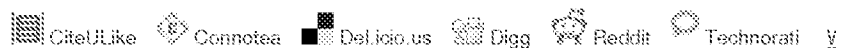
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The use of inverted files for the calculation of similarity coefficients and other functions is discussed in the context of mechanised document retrieval systems. A range of algorithms which have been described for the matching of queries is presented. Particular attention is paid to the computational efficiency of the various algorithms. Improved search heuristics are given in some cases. It is suggested that the algorithms described are sufficiently efficient to permit the provision of nearest neighbour search as a standard retrieval option.



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